"(c) None.

"(d) Does not arise."

SRI A. RATNAM :—" எக்சிகியூடிவ் ஆபீசர்களில் ஒருவர்கூட ஹரிஜன வகுப்பைச் சேர்ந்தவர் இல்லை. அந்த இலாகாவில் ஹரிஜனங்களை ஆபீசர்களாக நியமித்தால் இந்த நாட்டிலிருந்து தீண்டாமை வெகுவாக துரத்தப்படும் என்ற உண்மையை உணர்ந்து அரசியல் திட்டத்தின் மூலம் ஹரிஜனங்களை எக்சிகியூடிவ் ஆபீசர்களாக நியமிக்க திட்டமிட்டிருக்கிறார்களா என்பதை அறிய விரும்புகிறேன்."

9-50 a.m. THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" When applications were called for, nobody applied."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" இந்த Executive ஆபீசர்களை சர்வீஸ் கமிஷன் தேர்ந்து எடுக்கிறதா அல்லது சர்க்காரே நேரடியாக தேர்ந்தெடுக்கிறார்களா ? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Deputy Commissioners and Assistant Commissioners do it."

Sale of salt by weight.

* 1305 *Q.*—SRI V. K. RAMASWAMY MUDALIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state why the sale of salt by weight is ordered only in the City of Madras and why the same procedure has not been extended to all the areas in the State?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Though orders were issued that salt should be sold by weight in Madras City, the orders have not been enforced so far, for want of adequate staff and equipment which could not be sanctioned in view of lack of funds. The question of creating an enforcement organization is under consideration. The feasibility of extending it to all other areas of the State will be taken up after watching the results of the working of the measure in Madras City."

SRI V. K. RAMASWAMY MUDALIAR :—" It is not correct to say that extra expenditure will have to be incurred for this because the present staff who are enforcing the Weights and Measures Act in respect of other articles of consumption can very well do this also. Are the Government aware that consumers are put to heavy loss by the sale of salt not by weight, even though an Act has been passed long ago and that Act has been before the Government for a long time without being implemented?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" It is not as if the existing organization could do this work also. It requires extra staff and that means finding more money. The question, however, is under the active consideration of the Government."

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" May I know what is wrong in continuing the present system of sale of salt by measure? "

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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliar has stated that it affects the consumers and it is because the proper quality of salt is not made available to them when it is sold by measure. Merchants are not interested in improving the quality of salt because when it is sold by measure, merchants and producers do not worry about the quality. Good quality salt is more dense and if it is sold by weight, then the merchants will be interested in preparing the proper quality of salt."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" What are the reasons which weighed with the Government in reverting to the weight system? I know that the merchant community was not at all consulted before embarking upon the new system of sale by weight and that due publicity was not given to it with the result that the public had no say in the matter at all."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" There is no question of reverting. The method now adopted is selling by measure. We want weight to be adopted in future. So, there is no question of reverting to weight."

[* 1306 *Q.*—" Answered with starred question No. 1284."]

Amount of taxes and fees due to municipalities allowed to become time-barred.

* 1307 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state the total amount of taxes and fees due to municipalities on 31st March 1953 that were allowed to become time-barred without any coercive steps prescribed in the Act having been taken?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" The Examiner of Local Fund Accounts has reported that taxes and fees aggregating to Rs. 2,19,388-0-5 on 31st March 1953 were allowed to become time-barred in all the sixty-one municipalities in the State without the coercive steps prescribed in the Act having been taken for their realization."

Provision of sanitary amenities to the slums in the City.

* 1308 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount spent by the Director of Harijan Welfare for the provision of sanitary amenities to the slums in the City during the year 1952;

(*b*) why the Government issued instructions to the Director of Harijan Welfare directing him not to proceed with providing sanitary amenities in the Government slums;

(*c*) whether the Corporation of Madras is providing sanitary amenities in the Government slums;